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Office of Legislative Counsel

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1. In reply to his request for information for guidance regarding [redacted] I have informed Cong. Hillings that we do not have much information regarding [redacted] and that the information we have is quite conflicting. I indicated my personal reaction would be one of considerable caution and Mr. Hillings indicated that he would proceed in the same vein. We have arranged to brief Mr. Hillings on 30 August at 1000 in the Director's Conference Room. The main material in which he is interested is the political orientation of the governments in Central and South America [redacted]

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2. I talked with Assistant Secretary of State Thruston Morton to keep him advised that we were in touch with Hillings. Morton said that Assistant Secretary Holland and the Department generally was unhappy about Congressional visitation at this time, but that nevertheless there was nothing they could do to stop Hillings. He felt Hillings would not see anything that was not already public, and their major concern, like ours, lay in his travels outside of Guatemala. Mr. Morton felt that Hillings was sound on security and need not worry on that point, but that basically all Hillings was interested in was to get some personal publicity from a political standpoint in view of the forthcoming elections.

DOS review(s) completed.

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